

REMARKS:

In the Office Action, claims 7-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C 102 as being anticipated by Iwai et al. (JP 2002-149527). Applicants respectfully submit that for the reasons set forth below, Iwai fails to disclose the present invention and the pending claims should be all allowable over Iwai. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Iwai discloses a system in which information on available taxies is provided to users. In the first embodiment of Iwai, each taxi is equipped with a GPS, and location information of taxies is provided to a taxi location information center C via the Internet 4. (See Fig. 1). A user E accesses the taxi location information center C via a wireless carrier D and the Internet 7. (See Fig. 1).

In order to find out if any taxies are available to a user from any taxi companies, the user first accesses the taxi location information center C which sends in return a service option screen (a). (See Fig. 2). The user selects a choice requesting a listing of taxi companies (B3). The taxi location information center C returns a listing of taxi companies (d). The user selects one company from the listing and checks if there are any taxies available from the selected company.

In order to request a dispatch of a taxi, the user selects an option to call (B4) from the screen (a). (See Fig. 2) In return, the taxi location information center C sends a screen (e). In the screen (e), the user is given two choices: area search; and navigation search.

In order to find if there are any taxies nearby, the user selects the area search. In return, the taxi location information center C sends a series of questions (screens (f), (g) and (h)) to find out the area in which the user is situated. The questions are given in a sequence to narrow down the area. For instance, the first question is to ask a state in which the user is situated. The next question is to ask a county of the selected state in which the user is situated. The third question is to ask a city of the selected country in which the user is situated. Through these questions, the taxi location information center C lastly sends information (screen (i)) on available taxies in the area in which the

user is situated. The user then selects a telephone number listed in screen (i) to call the driver of a selected taxi.

If the user would like to ride a taxi from a particular taxi company, the user selects the navigation search in the screen (e). The taxi location information center C returns a list of taxi companies. (screen (j)). When the user selects one company, the taxi location information center C sends a list of available taxies from the company. (screen (i)).

Fig. 3 illustrates the second embodiment of Iwai. In the second embodiment, the locations of the taxes are determined, not using the GPS equipped with the taxies but using information on the locations of the base stations which receive signals from the taxies.

Claims 7-22 should be allowable over Iwai. Among these claims, claim 7 is an independent claim. Claim 15 is also an independent claim which recites limitations similar to those of claim 7.

First of all, Iwai is silent about the limitation of claim 7 of “a location database which stores a list of geographical points to which vehicles are dispatchable.” There is nothing in Iwai that discloses or teaches the use of any database. In the present invention, a user is given the ability to select a location to which a taxi should be dispatched. In the embodiment of the present invention, for instance, the user is shown a list of geographical locations to which taxies are dispatchable. The user selects one location from the list at which she wants to meet and ride a taxi.

In Iwai, the user is given a series of questions to narrow down the area in which the user is situated. These questions give “areas” to choose from. These questions do not give “geographical points.” “Areas” and “geographical points” are different.

Iwai is also silent about the limitation of “a receiver configured to receive a dispatch request from a mobile terminal via the wireless network, wherein the request includes information indicative of a geographical area identified by the wireless network in which the mobile terminal is situated.” In the present invention, a request from a user includes information indicative of a geographical area identified by the wireless network

in which the mobile terminal is situated. In Iwai, no location information of anything is attached to communications from the user. In Iwai, the area in which the user is situated is determined through a series of questions sent from the taxi location information center C.

Iwai also fails to disclose the limitation of “a dispatch location finder configured to determine at least one candidate geographical point, using the location database, based on the geographical area identified by the wireless network.....” As discussed above, Iwai is silent about the location database or the geographical indication in the request. Thus, the last limitation of claim 7 cannot be said to be disclosed or taught by Iwai.

Since none of the limitations of claim 7 is disclosed or taught by Iwai, claim 7 should be allowable over Iwai. Since claim 7 should be allowable, its dependent claims should also be allowable over Iwai. Further, claims 15-22 should also be allowable over Iwai since claim 15 recites limitations similar to those in claim 7.

Claims 23-34 should also be allowable over Iwai. Among these claims 23 and 29 are independent claims.

Iwai is silent about the limitation of claim 23 of “a user database which stores for each user a list of at least one geographical point to which a respective user wishes a vehicle dispatched.” There is nothing in Iwai that discloses or teaches the use of any database. In the embodiment of the present invention, for instance, a user may pre-register at least one geographical point at which the user wants to meet and ride a taxi.

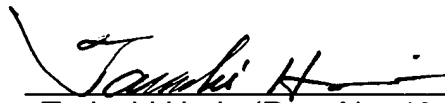
Iwai is also silent about the limitation of “a receiver configured to receive a dispatch request from a mobile terminal via the wireless network and authenticate a user of the mobile terminal, wherein the request includes information indicative of a geographical area identified by the wireless network in which the mobile terminal is situated.” As discussed above, Iwai fails to disclose a request which includes information indicative of a geographical area identified by the wireless network in which the mobile terminal is situated. Also, Iwai is silent about authentication.

Iwai fails to disclose "a dispatch location finder configured to present the list of at least one geographical point stored for the user to the mobile terminal via the wireless network...." As discussed above, Iwai is silent about the user database. Thus, Iwai cannot be said to disclose "presenting the list of at least one geographical point stored for the user."

Since none of the limitations in claim 23 is disclosed or taught by Iwai, claims 23 should be allowable over Iwai. Since claim 23 should be allowable, its dependent claims should also be allowable. Claims 29-34 should also be allowable because claim 29 recites limitations similar to those in claim 23.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date



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